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Commission on Population and Development
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council stipulates that the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair, one or more Vice-Chairs and such other officers as may be required.

* E/CN.9/2016/1.

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In accordance with Council decision 2005/213, the Commission, immediately following the closure of its forty-eighth session, held the first meeting of its forty-ninth session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other officers of the Commission. The Commission elected Mwaba Patricia Kasese-Bota (Zambia) as Chair and Nadine Skale (Germany) and Patricia Chemor Ruíz (Mexico) as Vice-Chairs for the forty-ninth session. At the second meeting of its forty-ninth session, to be held on 11 April 2016, the Commission will elect the Vice-Chairs nominated by the groups of Asia-Pacific States and Eastern European States.

The membership of the Commission at its forty-ninth session is provided in the annex.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council requires that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

On the recommendation of the Commission at its forty-eighth session, the Council, in its decision 2015/253 (see A/70/3, chap. X, sect. I), approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

At its thirtieth session, the Commission decided to authorize its Bureau to hold intersessional meetings in preparation for its sessions on a yearly basis (see E/1997/25, para. 52). At its thirty-ninth session, in its resolution 2006/1 (see E/2006/25, chap. I.B), the Commission requested its Bureau to meet as frequently as necessary in preparation for its annual sessions. The Commission has before it the report of the Bureau on its intersessional meetings.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (E/CN.9/2016/1)

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development on its intersessional meetings (E/CN.9/2016/2)

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session (E/CN.9/2016/L.1)

3. Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

In its resolution 49/128, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development, the General Assembly decided that the Commission, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, would monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference at the national, regional and international levels and advise the Council thereon.

In the terms of reference of the Commission (see E/1995/27, annex I, sect. I.A), which were endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1995/55, the Commission was called upon to adopt a topic-oriented and prioritized multi-year programme. That work programme would, inter alia, provide a framework for assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action. In its report on its twenty-eighth session, of which the Council took note in its decision 1995/236, the

Commission called for the preparation of annual reports on a selected topic of the Programme of Action (see E/1995/27, annex I, sect. III).

At its twenty-first special session, the General Assembly, in its resolution S-21/2, adopted the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action.

In its decision 2015/101 (see E/2015/25, chap. I.B), the Commission decided that the theme for its forty-ninth session in 2016 should be "Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda (E/CN.9/2016/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda (E/CN.9/2016/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2016/5)

4. General debate on national experience in population matters: "Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda"

The Commission has concluded that it would be useful to make provision in its agenda for a general debate on population matters relating to the theme of its forty-ninth session. Under this item, Governments would report on national experience in meeting the goals and objectives set out in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as they relate to strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda.

5. General debate on the contribution of population and development issues to the Economic and Social Council theme in 2016 on "Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results"

At its forty-first session, the Commission heard an address by the President of the Economic and Social Council on the various ways in which the Commission might contribute to the new mandates of the Council (see E/2008/25, chap. V). In response, the Commission added this item to its annual agenda. At its forty-ninth session, the Commission will discuss the contributions it could make to the Council theme "Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results". The Bureau of the Commission decided to invite the President of the Council to address the Commission under agenda item 5 in order to reflect on the linkages between the themes of the Commission and of the Council in 2016, and on related topics.

6. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

At its twenty-eighth session, the Commission suggested that the work programme in the field of population should continue, inter alia, to give high priority to the

monitoring of population trends and policies and include the biennial preparation of estimates and projections of global, national, urban, rural and city populations; the conduct of studies on population and related development policies; the preparation of studies on interactions of population change with other development processes; the conduct of analyses of mortality; contribution to and coordination of in-depth studies on fertility, nuptiality and reproductive rights and health, including family planning; the conduct of studies to improve the understanding of the causes and consequences of internal migration and international migration; increasing public awareness of and information exchange on population and development issues; making the necessary arrangements for coordinating the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action; and the provision of technical cooperation support to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and, on a temporary basis, to countries with economies in transition in the light of the economic and social problems that those countries faced at that time (see E/1995/27, annex II). The Commission reaffirmed the content of the work programme at its twenty-ninth session (Commission resolution 1996/1, see E/1996/25, chap. I.C).

At its thirtieth session, the Commission stressed the importance of continuing the basic work of the Population Division of the Secretariat on the crucial underpinnings of population estimates and projections; basic population trends and issues, including fertility, mortality, migration and patterns of rural and urban population change; the evolution of population policies; and understanding of the links between population and development (Commission resolution 1997/3, see E/1997/25, chap. I.C). At its thirty-seventh session, the Commission reaffirmed the importance of the work of the Population Division in providing the United Nations system and the international community with comprehensive and scientifically sound inputs for the analysis of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives on population and development set in the outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences, especially the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (Commission resolution 2004/1, see E/2004/25, chap. I.B). At the same session, the Commission further emphasized that the Population Division should continue its basic work on population estimates and projections; patterns of rural and urban population change; the analysis of international migration; the implications of the changing age structure of the population for development; the increasing diversity of fertility and mortality levels and trends; the interrelations among population, resources, the environment and development; and the evolution of population policies, applying a gender perspective in this regard (Commission resolution 2004/1).

As indicated in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 7)), the objective of the Organization under the subprogramme on population is to strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and to integrate the population dimensions into the international development agenda. Pursuant to paragraph 7.11 of the proposed strategic framework, the Population Division is the entity responsible for the subprogramme on population, the mandate of which is to be achieved by: (a) providing substantive support to United Nations bodies, especially the Commission on Population and Development, assessing progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed

development goals and following up on the decision of the General Assembly to extend the Programme of Action beyond 2014; (b) facilitating the discussion of key or emerging population issues by experts or Government representatives; (c) preparing comprehensive studies on population issues and trends relating to fertility, family planning, mortality, international and internal migration, urbanization, population growth, population ageing, population projections, population policy and population in relation to development; (d) disseminating population information and policy-relevant findings in the area of population, through the Population Division websites; and (e) supporting capacity development to address population issues through workshops or the dissemination of technical material, such as manuals and software, in collaboration with other subprogrammes and entities in related areas.

The Commission has before it for consideration the relevant section of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs). The Commission is invited to review the proposal and provide comments.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2016/6)

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2015: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2016/7)

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019: subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs (E/CN.9/2016/CRP.1)

7. Review of the functioning of the methods of work of the Commission

At its fifty-fifth meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council adopted decision 2015/252 entitled "Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development", as recommended by the Commission (see E/2015/25, chap. I, sect. A). According to this decision, the Commission shall review the functioning of its methods of work during its forty-ninth session in 2016, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission and its contribution to the Council.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2016/8)

8. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission has before it the draft provisional agenda for its fiftieth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission and their urgency and relevance in the light of the current situation.

The attention of the Commission is drawn to Council resolutions 1979/41 and 1981/83 on the control and limitation of documentation. In addition, the Commission is reminded that the Council, in paragraph 1 (j) of its resolution 1982/50 on the revitalization of the Council, urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the provisions of the decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation.

The attention of the Commission is also drawn to paragraph 4 of the annex to Council resolution 1982/50, in which the Secretary-General recommended that: (a) the documentation and programme of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the Assembly be streamlined in order to enable the subsidiary bodies to perform effectively the functions entrusted to them; (b) the Council and the Assembly continue to review the provisional agendas for their subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency in the overall request for documentation and its orderly consideration at the intergovernmental level, taking fully into account the medium-term plan and the programme budget; and (c) in doing so, the Council and the Assembly also take into account the need for the consolidation of items and documentation for their subsidiary machinery.

Furthermore, in its resolution 1981/83, the Council instructed its subsidiary bodies to take urgent measures to streamline their agendas and programmes of work and to bring about a substantial reduction in their requests for documents, bearing in mind the duration and the cycles of their meetings, and to report to the Council on measures adopted, taking strictly into account the guidelines set forth in the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the Council and the Assembly.

In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General: (a) to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources; and (b) to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission (E/CN.9/2016/L.2)

9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission shall submit a report to the Council on the work of each session.

Annex

Membership of the Commission on Population and Development at its forty-ninth session (2016)

(45 members; four-year term)

	Term expires at close of session in the year
Argentina	2018
Bangladesh	2017
Belarus	2019
Belgium	2017
Benin	2018
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2019
Brazil	2017
Burundi	2019
Chad	2017
China	2018
Denmark	2017
Dominican Republic	2018
Egypt	2016
Germany	2018
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2019
Iraq	2017
Israel	2019
Jamaica	2019
Japan	2016
Liberia	2018
Madagascar	2017
Malaysia	2018
Mexico	2017
Mongolia	2018
Netherlands	2017

	Term expires at close of session in the year
Nigeria	2017
Norway	2016
Oman	2017
Pakistan	2018
Peru	2018
Philippines	2019
Republic of Moldova	2016
Romania	2017
Russian Federation	2018
Serbia	2018
Sierra Leone	2019
South Africa	2018
Spain	2016
Switzerland	2017
Uganda	2016
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2018
United Republic of Tanzania	2016
United States of America	2018
Uruguay	2017
Zambia	2018

Note: At its 5th meeting, on 12 November 2015, the Economic and Social Council elected Finland to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fiftieth session in 2016 and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-third session in 2020. The Council postponed the election of one member from the Group of Asia-Pacific States and one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, both for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's forty-ninth session in 2016, and postponed the election of one member from the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fiftieth session in 2016 and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-third session in 2020 (see decision 2016/201 B).